

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

**Subject**

Legislative Policy: Seismic Safety

**Policy  
Number**

M-9

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**Purpose**

To establish legislative policy guidelines to enhance the ability of the County's Washington and Sacramento representatives to provide timely input to legislators concerning the County's interests on seismic safety.

**Background**

Although San Diego County has experienced no major damaging earthquakes within historical time, it does lie within a zone of high earthquake activity. Since there is a possibility of a major earthquake here, the County is concerned with reducing the risks to life and property.

**Policy**

It shall be the legislative policy of the County of San Diego with regard to seismic safety to:

1. Support legislation and policies which would aid the County in control of inappropriate land uses in areas subject to special seismic risk (steep slopes, landslides, coastal bluffs, areas subject to liquefaction, etc.).
2. Support funding proposals for geologic studies in this County by the California Division of Mines and Geology, and other State and Federal agencies engaged in safety issues. These studies include both vulnerability and risk analyses.
3. Support legislation which will allow preservation of historical buildings while minimizing earthquake risks. Such methods might include restrictions on occupancy, evacuation plans and structural improvements to bring buildings up to code or strengthen them in other fashions.

Reference Seismic Safety Element of the General Plan

Sunset Date This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 1/1/96

B/S Action 8-3-77 (9) B/S Action 12-11-84 (23) B/S Action 1-29-91 (78)

CAO Reference 1. Department of Planning and Land Use 2. Chief Administrative Officer